

Charlemont Board of Assessors Meeting Minutes

Date: September 15, 2004

Present: Nancy J. Finn, Carol A. Rice and Michael E. Kane

The meeting was convened at 6:30 p.m.

The Planning Board accepted the Assessors' invitation to meet and discuss issues of mutual interest. Charlotte Dewey, Daniel Miller, William Stephens and Carlene Millette attended. The meeting, which lasted an hour, was productive. Separate minutes were made of the discussion. A notice of the joint meeting was posted.

At 7:30 p.m. the Assessors convened their regular meeting. The minutes of the September 1, 2004 meeting were reviewed and approved. The minutes of the August 11 meeting have been e-mailed to the website.

Final certification for our FY 2005 reval valuations was received on September 3 by telephone from Walter Dusza and the letter for Notification of Certification was received on September 13. Mr. Dusza did tell us that the word "preliminary" needed to be in our public notice for the public disclosure. The previous ad was copied and we were unaware of the new change in wording. It was allowed this time. Note has been made in the file so that it will be correct for the next reval. Mr. Dusza was thanked for the promptness with which our paperwork was processed and approved. The Assessors signed the LA-13 (new growth) form. A page was prepared that explained Column D changes and also listed the new personal property accounts and those with increases. Both documents will be faxed to Boston and then the hard copy mailed. A percentage comparison of property class totals for FY 2004 and FY 2005 was prepared for the Board. After reviewing the percentages, the Assessors signed a letter to the Selectmen recommending a single tax rate for FY 2005. The public hearing for the residential rate has been set up by the Selectmen's Office for Tuesday, October 12, 2004 at 7:15 p.m. Statistics have been prepared regarding the small business exemption in case questions arise during the public hearing.

A special warrant for the Tax Collector was signed by the Board in the amount of \$100.00.

The Board voted and signed the monthly list of 2004 motor vehicle excise abated for September, 2004 in the amount of \$13.33.

A property owner included with his annual application a note of thanks to the Board for sending the form.

A letter from the Board of Selectmen regarding notification of other Board members when there will not be a quorum was reviewed. It was noted in the letter that such a meeting would need to be canceled as soon as possible.

The overdue sewer amounts for FY 2005 have been entered into the computer data for the fall tax bills. Mr. Bishop will be e-mailed about coming to create the disk of data for Point Software and our fall tax bills.

The Open Space and Recreation Plan 2004 and the Community Development Plan are on file in the Assessors Office for reference purposes. Bill Labich asked if the Board would like any of the maps

enlarged for office use. The Board left it up to Mrs. Purinton; an enlargement of the protected land map will be requested for a reference tool in our office.

The Board of Selectmen will use the Assessors Office for their Tuesday, October 5, meeting.

The Department of Revenue had the following guidelines on-line: Interim Year Adjustment Clarification and FY 2005 Property Tax Bills Re: Motor Vehicle Registration Requirements And Overdue Taxes and Charges (copies were made for each Assessor).

Mr. Kane received his M.A.A.O. annual election ballot and two Executive Board candidates' statements; Mrs. Purinton will mail the sealed ballot. Notice of the Fall Conference from October 12 – 14 at Jiminy Peak was reviewed. No one plans to attend, although Mrs. Finn will give it more thought and let Mrs. Purinton know if she wishes to register for any of the sessions.

The COMPreport for July and August was reviewed. The September issue of The Beacon was received as well and GIS Education Solutions from ECS with a schedule of courses.

The office will be closed on Wednesday, September 29, while Mrs. Purinton attends the M.A.A.O. Clerk's Conference in Northampton. The office will also be closed the week of October 4 – 8; Mrs. Purinton will have notices in the newspapers and on the bulletins boards at the Town Hall.

Beginning in October, the Board will resume its regular 2nd and 4th Wednesday evening meetings.

Miscellaneous ads and offers will be recycled.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Jean Purinton

Secretary

gjp